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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Louis Fouarge

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EXAMINER

TESKIN, FRED M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1796

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/04/2010

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Detailed Action

This action follows a reply filed on 05/17/2010. Per the reply, the Specification and claim 51 have been amended; no claims have been cancelled or added. Claims 29-51 remain pending and under examination.

The objections set out in the last Office action but not repeated herein are withdrawn.

The specification stands objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: the lack of proper antecedent basis for the subject matter of claims 34 and 46, particularly the recitation “said section transfer conduit ... extends downwardly ... by an angle of at least 30°”. The most relevant supporting disclosure provides basis only for a downward angle preferably superior to 10° (see page 19, lines 8-9 and page 24, lines 22-23).

Applicant’s arguments respecting the repeated objection have been fully considered and found not to be persuasive.

The thrust of the arguments is that paragraph 89 of the Specification provides the requisite support for the claimed feature of an angle of at least 30°. Examiner agrees *only* insofar as the cited paragraph describes an *upward* direction under an angle preferably superior to 10°, and more preferably superior to 30°. Claims 34 and 46,

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however, claim embodiments wherein the section of transfer conduit between the pump and the contact vessel “extends downwardly ... by an angle of at least 30°”. Applicant has failed to explain how the cited text describing an *upward* direction under an angle superior to 30° provides antecedent basis for the claimed feature wherein the section of transfer conduit between the pump and the contact vessel extends *downwardly* from the pump by an angle of at least 30°. Absent such explanation, the continued objection is still deemed tenable and therefore must be maintained.

Claims 29-51 are maintained as allowable for the reasons detailed in the last Office action.

This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

Objection to the specification as detailed above.

Prosecution on the merits is (or remains) closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this communication.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner F. M. Teskin whose telephone number is

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(571) 272-1116. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:00 AM - 4:30 PM, and can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wu, can be reached on (571) 272-1114. The appropriate fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Fred M Teskin/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1796